

## DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

### CHAPTER 41

#### 41.05 Territorial Waters Trawl Prohibition

It shall be unlawful to fish for or take Atlantic menhaden by vessels rigged with a midwater, otter or beam trawl net in Maine territorial waters.

#### 41.30 Menhaden Program

##### 1. Definitions

A. "Hogshead": one hogshead equals 17.5 lb bushels.

B. "Bushel": one bushel equals 70 lbs of menhaden.

C. "Truck": one truck equals 40,000 lbs.

##### 2. State Allocation Fishery

It is unlawful to fish for, take, or possess Atlantic menhaden except in accordance with an episodic event fishery established by the Department in accordance with Chapter 41.30(3).

##### A. Exceptions

(a) An individual may fish or take by hook and line up to 25 menhaden per day for personal use only, daily.

(b) A vessel may fish for or take up to 5,000 pounds of menhaden per day as incidental bycatch at any time other than during an episodic event fishery. A vessel shall not land more than 5,000 lbs per calendar day. A vessel that is taking menhaden shall not transfer menhaden at sea.

##### 3. Episodic Event Fishery

An episodic event fishery may be opened following the full utilization of the state allocation of menhaden. The Atlantic menhaden episodic fishery opened 12:01 a.m. on June 8, 2017 and will close at 11:59 p.m. on July 5, 2017.

##### A. Notice

Commercial Pelagic and Anadromous license holders shall be informed by public notice in a newspaper circulated in the area affected of any openings or closing dates for an episodic event fishery.

## B. Reporting

Any harvester landing menhaden during an episodic event fishery must declare into the fishery by notifying the Department of their intent to harvest menhaden during the episodic event fishery prior to landing any menhaden. All harvesters must report landings daily to the Department by leaving a message at (207) 633-9494 with the following information no later than noon the day after landing:

- License Holder Name
- Vessel Name
- Vessel Documentation or State Registration Number
- DMR Landings Number
- Location of Harvest
- Pounds Landed
- Phone Number where License Holder can be reached
- VTR numbers (if applicable)

This reporting requirement is in addition to the reporting requirements of Chapter 8.20 for anadromous and pelagic license holders.

## C. Landing of menhaden

Following the opening of an episodic event fishery, and prior to the closure of the episodic event fishery, all menhaden harvested from Maine territorial waters must be landed in the State of Maine between 12:01 AM on Monday and 11:59 PM Thursday each week.

### (1) Effort Restrictions

- (a) Weekly landing limit shall not exceed 160,000 lbs (4 trucks) per vessel
- (b) Daily landing limit shall not exceed 120,000 lbs (3 trucks) per vessel.

### (2) Exceptions

- (b) An individual may fish or take by hook and line up to 25 menhaden per day for personal use only, daily.
- (c) Any license holder landing Atlantic menhaden taken from Maine territorial waters with fixed gear are subject to a daily landing limit of

6,000 lbs and may harvest seven days a week.

#### 4. Areas

##### A. Bald Head Cliff to Cape Arundel

Shoreward and westerly of a straight line starting at the easternmost point of Bald Head Cliff, Ogunquit to the southernmost point of Cape Arundel, Kennebunkport.

##### B. Biddeford Pool to Cape Elizabeth

Shoreward and westerly of the territorial sea line, as identified on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration nautical chart 13286, starting at the easternmost point of Biddeford Pool, Biddeford following the territorial sea line to where the line intersects the southernmost point of land in Cape Elizabeth.

##### C. All Maine territorial waters outside the areas defined in Chapter 41.30(A) & (B)

Shoreward of the territorial sea line, as identified on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration nautical charts, except for those areas defined in Chapter 41.30(A) & (B).

#### 5. Area Limitations

The areas in Chapter 41.30(4)(A, B & C) are restricted to the take, possession transport, and landing of the Atlantic menhaden in accordance with the following regulations:

##### A. Harvester Vessel Limitations in all Areas (A, B & C)

It shall be unlawful for any harvester vessel that exceeds 50 feet in length overall to fish for, take, or possess menhaden within these restricted areas. It shall be unlawful for any harvester vessel to fish for, take, possess or transfer greater than 120,000 lbs of menhaden per day (12:01 AM to 11:59 PM).

##### B. Carrier Vessel Limitations in all Areas (A, B & C)

It shall be unlawful for any carrier vessel to receive or land more than 120,000 lbs of menhaden per day (12:01 AM to 11:59 PM) harvested from Maine Territorial waters, which includes Areas A, B & C.

- (1) A carrier vessel may transport and land menhaden once per day at a limit of 120,000 lbs capacity.

- (2) It shall be unlawful for any carrier vessel greater than 90 feet LOA to transport menhaden harvested from Areas A, B & C.

#### 6. Suspension of rules

The Commissioner has the authority to suspend all regulations in Chapter 41.30 in the event of a potential fish kill upon consultation with industry and Marine Patrol. Notice of rule suspension and duration shall be provided via the internet on the Department's web site and by email to industry members or telephone.

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### INDEX

#### EFFECTIVE DATE:

May 2, 1982 – Section 41.01 with December 31, 1983 sunset provision

#### AMENDED

July 20, 2009 – Section 05

September 20, 2010 – Section 30

July 23, 2012 - Section 30

June 6, 2013 – Section 30 EMERGENCY (expires September 4, 2013)

July 25, 2013 – Section 30

July 31, 2016 – Section 30 EMERGENCY

August 5, 2016 – Section 30 (1) EMERGENCY (expires November 3, 2016)

August 15, 2016 – Section (30) EMERGENCY (expires November 13, 2016)

June 3, 2017 -Section 41.30 repealed and replaced (EMERGENCY)

June 8, 2017 -Chapter repealed and replaced (EMERGENCY)

July 3, 2017 - Section 41.30 (EMERGENCY)

September 30, 2017 – Section 41.30 (EMERGENCY)